

To: Office of Planning and Research
 PO Box 3044
 1400 Tenth Street, Room 113
 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Energy Commission
 1516 Ninth Street, MS-48
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Applicant: Eagle Rock Analytics

Project Title: Climate Analytics to Support Natural Gas Sector Utilities: Actionable, Responsive and Open Solutions for Historical Climate Needs in California

Project Location – Specific: 3669 57th St

Project Location – City: Sacramento **Project Location – County:** Sacramento

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project:

This project will advance natural gas system resilience by producing a data assimilation platform that pulls in a mix of weather observations, remote sensing and reanalysis data that are relevant to adaptation and resiliency planning. The platform will be used to produce continuously updated historical weather and climate data, supporting efforts to produce high resolution, hourly climate data. Once developed, the data assimilation platform will be made available to other research projects and tasks, allowing for other CEC-funded projects to be made operational quickly, with lower costs to ratepayers. The project will make use of machine learning, advanced statistical techniques and other technical methods that are well established in the literature, and readily implementable by using open source software.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Energy Commission

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Eagle Rock Analytics

Exempt Status: *(check one)*

- Ministerial Exemption (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(1); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Pub. Resources Code § 21080(b)(4); Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, § 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number
Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15306
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number.
- Common Sense Exemption. (Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3))

Reasons why project is exempt:

The activity is covered by the above exemptions because all aspects of the project will be conducted in an office setting on computers. This project involves advanced statistics, data assimilation, quality control of data, machine learning, and basic visualizations of data.

Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15061(b)(3) states the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

Cal. Code Regs., tit 14, §15306 covers Information Collection covers projects that meet the following criteria:

- 1) Consist of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities
- 2) Which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource.

Lead Agency

Contact Person: Susan Wilhelm **Area code/Telephone/Ext:** 916-327-1545

If filed by applicant:

1. Attach certified document of exemption finding.
2. Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project? Yes No

Signature: Susan F. Wilhelm **Date:** 6/15/2020 **Title:** Team Lead, Environ. Research
Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Signed by Responsible Agency

Signed by Lead Agency

Signed by Applicant

Jun 16 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Date received for filing at OPR: _____